

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 CTME-00 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05 OES-09

OMB-01 /065 W

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5699

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

DEA HQS WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 2692

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, BM

SUBJECT: BURMESE SEIZURE OF 80 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN

1. UNCLASSIFIED. THE BURMESE VERNACULAR PRESS HAS REPORTED THE SEIZURE BY LASHIO POLICE AND TOWNSHIP PEOPLE'S COUNCIL OFFICIALS OF 77 PACKETS OF BROWN HEROIN NEAR LASHIO, NORTHERN SHAN STATE. AN INITIAL SEIZURE OF 37 PACKETS WAS MADE ON 15 JULY. FOLLOWING THE INTERROGATION OF AN ARRESTED TRAFFICKER POLICE AND ARMY PERSONNEL MADE A SUBSEQUENT SEIZURE TWO DAYS LATER OF AN ADDITIONAL 40 PACKETS CACHED IN A SUGARCANE FIELD.
END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEING LOU. THE MISSION HAS OBTAINED ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON THE ABOVE SEIZURE FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE BUREAU (NIB). ON 15 JULY AT APPROXIMATELY 1900 HOURS SIX POLICE ON PATROL ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF LASHIO ENCOUNTERED 15 ARMED MEN WHO DID NOT HEED THE POLICE REQUEST TO HALT. IN THE ENSUING ACTION THE POLICE CAPTURED ONE MAN AND SEIZED 37 PACKETS OF BROWN HEROIN ABANDONED BY THOSE WHO FLED. THE PRISONER HAD IN HIS POSSESSION THREE RECEIPTS INDICATING THE HEROIN HAD BEEN
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PURCHASED FROM THE KACHIN INDEPENDENCE ARMY (KIA). THE PRISONER SUPPLIED THE POLICE WITH INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS IN THE LASHIO AREA. INTERROGATION OF ONE OF THOSE PERSONS NAMED BY THE PRISONER LED TO THE DISCOVERY OF AN ADDITIONAL 40 PACKETS OF BROWN HEROIN HIDDEN IN A SUGARCANE FIELD.

3. NIB DIRECTOR U LAY MAUNG TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE HEROIN HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO NIB HQS IN RANGOON WHERE IT WAS EXAMINED BY NIB CHEMISTS. HE SAID THE SEIZURES TOTALED 80 KILOGRAMS.

4. COMMENT: NIB HAS NOT YET PROVIDED US WITH A DETAILED CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE SEIZED NARCOTICS, WHICH WE ASSUME TO BE NUMBER THREE HEROIN. THE KIA HAS BEEN KNOWN TO PROCESS NUMBER THREE HEROIN IN THE PAST BUT RECENT REPORTING INDICATES KIA REFINERIES IN THE LASHIO AREA HAVE BEEN TURNING OUT IMPURE MORPHONE BASE. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, THAT THE KIA HAS RESUMED PRODUCTION OF HEROIN. END LOU:
BEAN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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